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AUTHOR	O'Grady, Kathleen; Wansbrough, Paula
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ABSTRACT

This book combines short stories with clear, factual health information for adolescent females about menstruation and their bodily changes they are experiencing. It focuses on young girls' concerns and questions about menstruation and educates through a combination of the front matter and the stories themselves. Coming from different generations and cultures, the characters in the stories ask questions that all girls ask about what is happening to their bodies, what it will feel like, and how people will react. The stories fall under six categories. Stories about waiting are "Blood" (Jane Eaton Hamilton); "The Summer I was Ten" (Ardelle Steuernol); "The Pyramid" (Stephanie Stearn); and "Blood and Chestnuts" (Kathleen O'Grady). Stories about the arrival are "The Look" (Sue Oswald); "A Funny Feeling" (Manjit Kaur); and "Jennifer's Birthday" (Tamara Steinborn). Stories about reaching out are "Outrunning Gravity" (Mary Helen Stefaniak); "A Passage to Womanhood" (Chi Nguyen); and "The Spaghetti Test" (Colette Harris). Stories about the challenge include "On My Own" (Karyn Silzer); "The Curse" (Mary Alice Ward); and "Turnings" (Rosemary Vogt). Stories about the passage include "New Moon" (Lilian Nattel); "My Body is My Temple" (Ida Fisher); and "Mom and Me and the Sisters of Assumption" (Germaine St. Paul). Stories about putting it all together are "Learning about Jeely Jars" (Louise Simon); "Thirteen and Normal" (Carmen Rodriguez); and "Character Building" (Emmy Pantin). The final section offers a menstrual calendar, other books of interest, and a glossary. (SM)

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